

examines the art objects, piece by piece and clears the objects for sending abroad as per the guidelines framed by the Government of India. However, the final decision regarding sending of art objects abroad rests with the Government of India.

Statement

Composition of the National Screening and Evaluation Committee constituted for screening and evaluation of the art objects to be sent abroad for exhibitions:

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| 1. | Dr. M.C. Joshi,
Ex- Director General,
Archaeological Survey of India | Chairman |
| 2. | Director General,
Archaeological Survey of India
New Delhi. | Member (Ex-Officio) |
| 3. | Director General,
National Museum,
New Delhi | Member (Ex-Officio) |
| 4. | Director,
Prince of Wales Museums of
Western India, Mumbai | Member (Ex-Officio) |
| 5. | Director,
Government Museum
Egmore, Madras | Member (Ex-Officio) |
| *6. | Representative of
Reserve Bank of India,
New Delhi | Member (Ex-Officio) |
| *7. | Representative of
Intelligence Bureau,
New Delhi | Member (Ex-Officio) |
| *8. | Representative of
Department of Revenue,
New Delhi | Member (Ex-Officio) |
| 9. | Director,
Antiquities,
Archaeological Survey of India
New Delhi. | Member (Ex-Officio) |

* (6), (7) and (8) above would be associated in connection with the Selection of Gems & Jewellery

Action Plan for India's Independence

1324. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in 'The Hindustan Times' New Delhi dated January 28, 1997 regarding the delay in the implementation of the action plan to celebrate 50 years of India's Independence;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) the contribution of each Ministry/Department assigned with the task of making the celebration a memorable event and the progress so far made in this regard;

(d) the amount earmarked and spent so far; and

(e) the manner in which the Government propose to complete the programmes?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) With a view to plan and organise the celebrations of India's 50 years of Independence the Govt. of India have already set up three committees i.e. a National Committee, a Cabinet Committee and an Implementation Committee.

The Prime Minister has also written to all Cabinet Ministers and Ministers of State with independent charge to formulate plans and programmes which are unique and befitting the significance of the occasion. Minister of Human Resource Development, Chairman of Implementation Committee has also written to Chief Ministers of States and to Governors/Lt. Governors of UTs requesting them to set up State/UT level Committees to plan and organise the celebrations.

A Secretariat to service the three Committees as also to monitor and co-ordinate various activities regarding celebrations is in the process of being set up.

An advertisement has since been released through DAVP inviting views and suggestions of the general public keeping in view the fact that people of India should decide how they want to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of India's Independence.

The implementation Committee which is basically responsible for evolving events and programmes etc. for commemoration, had its first meeting on 6th November, 1996. The Implementation Committee has been reconstituted and is going to meet on 5th March, 1997

Since the Implementation Committee would be considering a wide spectrum of proposals received on various themes and from various independent organisations, they will be examined by subject experts, professionals and persons with experience in relevant fields. Advisory groups on various themes are also being set up consisting of eminent persons to give their suggestions to the Implementation Committee. The Advisory Group on ceremonial events has met on 1st March, 1997. Similar meetings of other Advisory Groups are being held for eliciting their suggestions with the sole aim to make the event a success.

A total of Rs. 51 crores have been sanctioned out of which 20 crores are for National Celebrations, 25 crores for State Governments and 6 crores for other expenditure.

Total Literacy Campaign

1325. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Total Literacy Campaign has been launched in the scheduled districts also;

(b) if so, the coverage made in the Scheduled Areas in different States;